

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION FOR IMPROVED HYGIENE

✓ A2
This invention relates to devices and methods for facilitating identification of beverage
5 containers and similar items in order to discourage inadvertent or mistaken identity by another
with resultant use and potential spreading of communicable disease

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Personal identification of food and beverage containers has heretofore been proposed,
illustrative of which are the proposals of United States Patents 2,024,889 granted to A. Simeone
10 December 17, 1935; 3,392,468 granted to David Wolf on July 16, 1968; 3,974,916 granted to
Edgar O. Bartolucci on August 17, 1976; 4,203,240 granted to George I. Goodwin May 20,
1980; 4,347,804 granted to Antony-Euclid C. Villa-Real on September 7, 1982; 4,759,139
granted to M. David Ricks on July 26, 1988; 4,901,457 granted to Donald O. Chandler on
February 20, 1990; 5,492,077 granted to Howard L. Rose on February 20, 1996; 5,799,815
15 granted to Michael A. Lang on September 1, 1998; 5,839,581 granted to Douglas Vagedes on
November 24, 1998; and 5,845,777 granted to Boman K. Najmi on December 8, 1998.

Although such proposals have addressed selected problems encountered in providing
personal identification for containers of alimentary products (e.g., food and beverages), there have
continued to be certain drawbacks to their use. Thus, apparently for a variety of reasons such as
20 cost or cumbrousness in use, they have not found popular expression in the market place.
Accordingly, there has continued to be a need for improved and more attractive product

(a) disposing on said major surface an array of normally closed indicia-representing and identifying penetrable apertures; and

(b) correlating said container with identity of a user by marking a selected one of said apertures. --

A "Clean Copy" of Claim 25 is included as an Annex to this preliminary amendment. It is entitled "ANNEX TO PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT - CLEAN SET OF CLAIMS".

Please amend this divisional application by canceling all claims other than Claim 25. Please also insert in the first sentence following the title of the Application the following:-

a2
This is a division of Application No. 09/434,792, filed November 5, 1999, now United States Patent No. 6,311,840.--

Claim 25 is identified as Group III and is readable on Figure 10.

If anything further is needed to complete filing of this Divisional Application, please advise the undersigned.

Respectfully,



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